

PATENT
Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group 3643

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 9-25 are pending, claims 19-25 are allowed and claims 1, 2 and 9-18 are rejected in this application. Claims 1, 2 and 9-18 are cancelled hereby.

Responsive to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 2 and 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,911,198 (Curen et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,394,144 (Brose), Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 2 and 9-13.

Responsive to the Examiner's rejection of claims 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Curen et al., Brose and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,077 (Christiansen), Applicant has cancelled claims 14-17.

Responsive to the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Curen et al. as modified by Brose and Christiansen and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,559,498 (Westrick et al.), Applicant has cancelled claim 18.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 19-25 are allowed, for which the Applicant thanks the Examiner.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. The pending claims are therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

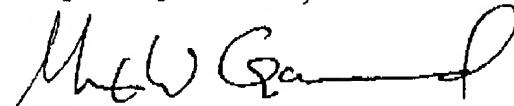
In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

IPPO034.CON

PATENT
Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group 3643

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,



Max W. Garwood
Registration No. 47,589

TTT6/ge

TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.
142 S. Main Street
P.O. Box 560
Avilla, IN 46710
Telephone: 260-897-3400
Facsimile: 260-897-9300

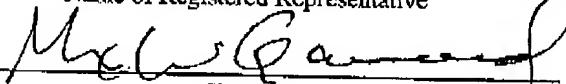
Attorney for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, on: May 21, 2004.

Max W. Garwood, Reg. No. 47,589

Name of Registered Representative



Signature

May 21, 2004

Date

IPPO034.CON